

In the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following:

A1 [0016] Figure 1 is a perspective view of [am] an embodiment of the present invention;

Please replace paragraph [0017] with the following:

[0017] Figure 2 is an assembly drawing illustrating the individual components of [am] an embodiment of the present invention.

A2

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following:

A3 [0022] As shown in [Figs. 1-2] Figures 1 and 2, the bag stand **100** has a platform **102**. The platform **102** can support, for example, a vacuum packaging system. By way of example only, a vacuum packaging system such as a Foodsaver® System by Tilia® may be placed onto the platform **102**. The platform **102** is substantially horizontal so that the vacuum packaging system will remain stationary when placed upon the platform **102**. Even though the description hereinafter relates to vacuum packaging systems and material, the bag stand **100** may also be used with systems and material that are not vacuum related (e.g., paper and non-vacuum plastic).

A3